

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image on a document is read by a reader section, and when the read image contains image storage information representing the location where the original image of the document is stored, the user is authenticated to see if he or she can utilize the original image of the document. If the user is authenticated, a server which stores the original image of the document is searched on the basis of the image storage information. The original image of the document is output from the server to a printer section.